

## THE SUNDAY JOURNAL

SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 1892.

WASHINGTON OFFICE—513 Fourteenth St.

Telephone Calls.

Business Office, 238 E. Editorial Rooms, 242

## TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

DAILY BY MAIL.

Daily only, one month, \$1.00

Daily only, three months, \$2.50

Daily only, one year, \$8.00

Daily, including Sunday, one year, \$10.00

Sunday only, one year, \$2.00

WHEN FURNISHED BY AGENTS.

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Daily, including Sunday, per week, by carrier, 20 cts

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JOURNAL NEWSPAPER COMPANY,

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

Persons sending the Journal through the mails in the

United States should put on an eight-page paper a

one-cent postage stamp, on a twelve or sixteen-

page paper a two-cent postage stamp. Foreign

postage is usually double these rates.

All communications intended for publication in this

paper must, in order to receive attention, be

accompanied by the name and address of the writer.

## THE INDIANAPOLIS JOURNAL

Can be found at the following places:

PARIS—American Exchange in Paris, 36 Boulevard

des Capucines.

NEW YORK—Gilley House and Windsor Hotel.

PHILADELPHIA—A. P. Kemble, 3735 Lancaster

avenue.

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House.

SIXTEEN PAGES

It is said that when Jersey Lightning

does strike it is very destructive. The

recent election in Jersey City is quoted

as an illustration.

Down in the wilds of Arkansas when

a couple of neighbors decide to carve

each other they go to church and make

the carving a part of the exercises.

There is no accounting for taste.

The volume of business, as shown by

the bank clearings, exceeds that of the

unprecedented trade of a year ago, and

Dun &amp; Co. declare that the outlook is

excellent. Was there ever such a dreary

future for the professional calamity?

WITH a Texas journalist shot dead

because of something he was suspected

of writing, but did not write, and with

a Terre Haute editor in jail on account

of something he did write, the life of the

newspaper man is getting to be a

risky one.

PRESENT indications are that the long-

delayed construction of the Grant monu-

ment in New York will soon be begun

in earnest. Gen. Horace Porter is pres-

ident of the association, and the Union

League Club has taken hold of the mat-

ter in earnest. The corner-stone will be

laid April 27, the anniversary of the

birth of General Grant.

THE first porcelain-ware ever made in

Indiana was turned out by a factory at

Peru, a few days ago, in the shape of

electric supplies. Five varieties of clay

are used in the manufacture, of which

one comes from England, one from Con-

necticut and one from Ohio. The steady

heat of natural gas greatly facilitates

the burning and improves the quality of

the product.

A WOMAN's newspaper league has

been formed in Chicago, the object of

which is to entertain and assist visiting

newspaper women who come to the

world's fair. This is kind and consider-

ate on the part of the Chicago ladies,

but the Journal's belief, based on con-

siderable observation of the journalistic

sisterhood, is that newspaper women

are able to find their way about unas-

sisted, even in the wilds of Chicago.

THE London correspondent of the

New York Tribune, speaking of the

proposition to pay salaries to members

of Parliament, says that the area of En-

glish constituencies' choice is far larger

than in America, "since residence within

the election district is not here [in En-

gland] required." The implication is that

in this country members of Congress

must reside within their several dis-

tricts. This is custom, but not law.

There is nothing in the Constitution or

laws of any State requiring a Represen-

tative in Congress to live within the

district he represents. Theoretically

and legally a citizen of any part of In-

diana might represent any district in

Congress if the people chose to have him.

ONE John O'Neill, of Whitehall, New

York, on the Vermont border, sold

liquor to purchasers in Vermont, where

there is a prohibitory law, sending it by

express. One day, when O'Neill was in

Vermont, he was seized by the authori-

ties, and the court before which he was

arraigned held him guilty for 307 sep-

arate sales, which means a fine of \$6,140

and costs amounting to \$407.96, and in

case the fine was not paid within a cer-

tain time, he was to be confined in the

House of Correction, at hard labor, for

10,914 days, a matter of fifty-four years.

The case was taken to the Supreme

Court of the United States, which has

rendered a decision sustaining the Ver-

mont court, Justices Field, Harlan and

Brewer dissenting. It is doubtless all

right—must be if the Supreme Court so

decides—but hereafter a resident of one

State had better be careful not to carry

on in another State a business which is

illegal therein, if he intends to visit his

friends in the State whose laws he has

broken while in another State.

NEW ENGLAND can no longer be re-

garded as the home of the Yankee of

the original type. In 1880, 793,612 for-

eign-born persons had invaded the six

States whose area is 66,465 square miles,

and the number of such had increased

to 1,143,239 in 1890, while the native-

born increased only from 3,216,917 to

3,588,406. That is, nearly one-third of

the population of the New England

States are foreign-born. If the number

of native-born, whose parents are for-

eign-born, is added to the number of

foreign-born, the element of immediate

foreign extraction in New England is

about equal to the purely native stock

—the native-born whites of native-born

parents constituting only 51.8 per cent.

of the whole population of that section,

In Maine, the purely native element is 76 per cent., but in Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island it is only 47.8, 42.6 and 39.8 per cent., respectively, of the whole population. As a matter of fact, there is nearly as much New England stock out of New England as in it.

## THE ACQUISITION OF INDIAN LANDS.

Those who read the exciting accounts of the rush which the land-hungry make whenever a reservation is opened for settlement under the homestead act can have no adequate idea of the area of the territory which in a brief period has passed from the general occupation of Indians to the use of white settlers. On Friday the Lake Traverse reservation, in the two Dakotas, was thrown open, and the rush which was made for the coveted land was the most interesting reading in yesterday's papers. This reservation has an area of over 600,000 acres of excellent lands in the Red river valley. The Sisseton Sioux, to whom it was ceded in 1862, have so advanced in civilization that they have chosen allotment in severalty, ceding the remainder to the United States for settlement. The reservation thus opened to settlement is about as large as the State of Rhode Island. Next Tuesday, at noon, a much larger tract will be opened for settlement in the Indian Territory—the reservation of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes. It is south of the Cherokee Strip and west of Oklahoma, from the southern part of which it is separated by a part of the Wichita reservation. That is, it is the central portion of the western third of the Indian Territory, and embraces over 2,500,000 acres. It will surprise some readers to know that the reservation to be opened this week contains nearly twice the area of Oklahoma, which has attracted so much attention, the area of the latter being 1,887,796 acres. That is, the country for which the boomers and land hungry will make a rush next Tuesday is as large as the State of Connecticut and a trifle of over 300,000 acres to spare, and more than one-seventh of the area of Indiana. Much of the land, however, is of little value, except for pasturage, without irrigation; nevertheless the boomers who have been hovering on the borders of the Indian Territory reservations seem just as eager as those who made a race Friday for the best lands in the Dakotas. During the past year Indian tribes have ceded to the United States a total of 8,200,000 acres, the greater part of which has already been opened to settlement, and the remainder will be at an early day. That is, considerably more territory has been acquired of the Indians during the year than one-third of Indiana. An agreement has been made for the purchase of the Cherokee Strip, but thus far Congress has made no move to carry out the conditions. These lands are largely obtained by the success of the policy of having Indians take lots in severalty and selling the portion not needed for that purpose to the government. When the Cherokee Strip shall have been secured there will be no more lands which can be obtained in this manner until the Sioux, Utes, Navajos and Apaches shall have acquired more of civilization than they now possess. The opening of these lands, therefore, may be regarded as evidence of the progress of the Indians who have sold them.

## THE DAY OF MIRACLES.

Shakespeare makes one of his characters say, "They say miracles are past." In another place he says, "It must be so, for miracles have ceased." One often hears the same idea expressed in everyday intercourse with people, the common consensus of opinion being that miracles have ceased. Perhaps it is true that miracles have in a literal sense ceased, but the natural world is still full of things so strange, so mysterious, so wonderful and so inexplicable that they might well be called miracles. According to the ordinary definition and understanding of the term, a miracle is an event contrary to the established laws of nature, or, in other words, a supernatural event. The common idea of a miracle is based on the supernatural occurrences recorded in the Scriptures, in which the laws of nature were temporarily suspended. Perhaps if we understood the laws of nature thoroughly we should not be so surprised at a departure from them. Admitting the existence of a Supreme Power or a First Great Cause that ordains and establishes the laws of nature, it follows, necessarily, that the same power could suspend the laws it had ordained. Thus that which seems a miracle to us would not be so to the power enacting it. From the stand-point of the Almighty there is no such thing as a miracle. But we do not need to look to a suspension of the laws of nature for miracles. The natural world above and around us is full of them. Life and death are miracles. What more wonderful and incomprehensible than the beginning of existence out of nothing and its merging in the infinite? The universe is a composite miracle, and every atom of matter in it constitutes a separate miracle. The utmost ingenuity of man, the combined power of all the inventors that ever lived, cannot create or destroy one atom of matter. Every grain of sand we tread upon is beyond finite comprehension. The laws of nature are all miracles. What more wonderful and incomprehensible than the law of gravitation, which operates without variation to the remotest parts of the universe? What a wonderful miracle is the rising of the sun! The fact that it occurs every day does not make it any less wonderful. Suppose it had never yet occurred. Suppose that the human race had for thousands of years been groping in darkness and that the sun should rise to-morrow for the first time. Human language would fail to describe the effect. Or, on the other hand, suppose that the sun should fail to rise to-morrow morning. Suppose that the daily miracle of its rising should not be enacted. What consternation and horror would possess the world! Why should falling drops of rain, while the sun is shining, cause a

rainbow? If that wonderful and beautiful spectacle had never yet been seen by mankind its first appearance would create a sensation beyond the power of words to describe. Then there is the miracle of sap rising in the trees in the spring and descending in the fall, the miracle of growing grass and of swelling buds, the miracle of flowing water, the miracle of moisture ascending from the earth to the upper air and then descending again in the form of rain, the miracles of snow and ice, the miracles of electricity and of hypnotism, the miracles of memory and imagination—in short, to come back to the place of beginning, there is the miracle of life itself. Shakespeare was wrong when he said the day of miracles was past. Every day is a day of miracles.

## RETROGRESSIVE THEOLOGY.

Theologians are a queer lot. With them to believe a thing once is to believe it forever or to cast into outer darkness, here and hereafter, if that thing has once been set down in their books as a cardinal point of doctrine. Here is the executive committee of Lane Theological Seminary of Cincinnati asking for a law that shall require the professors in the institution to stand an examination once every three months or oftener to show that they have not changed their opinions and are still sound in the orthodox belief. This action is to guard against the possibility of instruction that might tend to a doubt of the inerrancy of the Scriptures in any of its parts, and is taken because of a fear that some of Dr. Briggs's daring ideas may creep into the seminary. Briefly, the committee wishes to secure professors who will gain no new ideas or enlightenment while they are in the school, but the time one year or twenty. Naturally, they will teach nothing new, and the graduates of twenty-five years hence will have precisely the same opinions as their grandfathers and no new light. What would be thought of the trustees of a secular school who should apply such a rule to its teachers? Suppose the professors of science or literature were required to pass an examination every three months to show that they had acquired no new ideas—what a tumult would result! As a matter of fact, the contrary course is the rule. The man who learns nothing and goes on in the exact footsteps of his predecessors is finding himself crowded out to make way for the teacher who has new ideas and methods, and is continually investigating and on the lookout for others newer and more improved. It is the man who studies and learns, though in the process he may unlearn and cast aside much that was once gospel, who is in demand in the progressive secular colleges, and this will continue to be the case, else education means nothing. No matter what rules theological seminaries may lay down, new thoughts will eventually percolate within their sacred precincts and make them progressive in spite of themselves. Under the rule proposed, the Briggses will grow more numerous each year and the cast-iron variety of theology grow into more and more disrepute with thinking people.

## DEFECTIVE STATISTICS.

In the April number of the North American Review, which is a sort of Democratic issue, Representative Herbert, of Alabama, has an article on reciprocity, in which he introduces statistics to show that our foreign trade has not been increased in Brazil under the recent trade arrangement. By his showing for nine months the value of our exports to Brazil was less during that period than during the corresponding period of the preceding year. It proves, however, that Mr. Herbert is not giving the latest information. The returns of our exports to Brazil for the eleven months which ended with February, the period which the reciprocity arrangement has been in force, make the value \$13,311,270, against \$12,272,640 during the corresponding period of last year; the exports of flour during last February were valued at \$405,469, against \$185,531 during February, 1891. The reciprocity arrangement was in operation with Cuba six months at the end of February. During those six months our exports were \$10,135,085, against \$6,895,087 during the corresponding period of the preceding year. The arrangement with Porto Rico, in operation but six months, has been followed by an increase of exports from \$1,023,780 to \$1,310,790. As the Herbert figures will constitute a portion of the Democratic speeches in the campaign, and the North American Review will be quoted as their sponsor, it is well, thus early, to show, as the above official figures do, that they are defective and misleading. The Democratic statesman is a failure at figures, except when he takes a hand in making a State-tax act, when he is a burden, as thousands of tax-payers in Indiana are now realizing to their sorrow.

## THE LESSON OF EASTER.

A spirit underlies the celebration of Easter that is more genuine and universal, perhaps, than that which prompts the observance of any other sacred day. Whatever may be the honest differences of opinion as to the miraculous birth of the One whose resurrection is commemorated to-day, or whatever the doubts as to the literal accuracy of the story of the ascension, there are few indeed who do not accept the fact of the renewed life that the narrative teaches. Under all theology and creeds is the soul's conviction that this life does not "end all," but that it goes on. Mathematical demonstration does not prove it, philosophic argument cannot establish immortality, but stronger than all argument and superior to all sophistries is the human faith in a life beyond. The ever-recurring miracle of the spring teaches it, and more and more general becomes the welcome of the symbolic season as its lessons dawn clearer upon the world. Seeking for a sign, the people find it at their feet in the grass that grows green from the turf just now so brown, in the blossoms that spring from the lately frozen clods, in the budding leaves of the bare branches overhead—in the renewed life of flower, and plant, and tree that trans-

figures the world. In the sight of this marvel they know that they are not to lie down to dust and eternal death. The life is their symbol. Out of the dull earth it has sprung into purity and beauty, and why should the Maker of heaven and earth be less gracious to His human children than to the lilies of the field? Dull and unseeing, and prone to error as these children are, they know that they, too, shall arise transfigured; and so, on this day of days they heap lilies upon the altars and join in song to glorify Him who cast off the husk of mortality before them and is the resurrection and the life.

## ENGLISH VIEW OF ITALIAN INDEMNITY.

The telegraph brings us some comments of the English press on the action of the United States in voluntarily agreeing to pay the Italian indemnity. The London Times expresses its pious satisfaction that Good Friday should have been made memorable this year by so conspicuous an act of international justice. "The thing," it says, "is all the more precious because Mr. Blaine is not, perhaps, quite the first flower of Christian chivalry." There is something more in this than "a certain condescension in foreigners." It reveals the inevitable superciliousness of Englishmen. While pretending to congratulate the world on the triumph of Christian principles there is a covert intimation that the United States is less mindful of international obligations than other governments are, while the open sneer at Mr. Blaine is in the Times's most insulting manner. We are not aware that Mr. Blaine has ever posed as "the first flower of Christian chivalry," but he comes quite as near filling the bill as the average British statesman. In fact, we doubt if among all the Prime Ministers and Foreign Secretaries who have assisted in extending British empire and trade among simple and savage peoples there could be found one who would exactly answer the description of "the first flower of Christian chivalry."

The London Daily Graphic, taking a somewhat different view of the case, says the result establishes the responsibility of the federal government of the United States for the safety of foreigners within her gates, no matter how local authorities may choose to act. This is a mistake. The payment of the Italian indemnity is an act of grace on the part of the United States and in express terms disclaims the recognition of any international liability. That is constitutional and tenable ground, and, no doubt, the government will continue to maintain that position, though it may, as in the Italian case, make an exception to the rule by voluntarily paying an indemnity in cases where international justice and comity seem to require it. A payment which expressly disclaims responsibility does not establish responsibility.

The action of the School Board in the matter of public library, resulting in the removal of Mr. Evans from that position, is entirely indefensible. We might use stronger language than this and not overstep the limits of truth. It is possible the members of the board who engaged in the movement against Mr. Evans may succeed in convincing themselves that they were actuated by proper motives, but the Journal is sure it voices public opinion when it says they have acted in plain defiance of the wishes of the best friends of the library and against the best interests of the library itself. Their action will go far to strengthen a growing opinion that the library has outgrown the capacity of school-board management and ought to be placed under the control of a board selected with special reference to the work.

LITERARY fame has its drawbacks, one of which is thus referred to by Prof. John Fiske in the preface to his latest work, "The Discovery of America." He says:

"There is one thing which I feel obliged, though with extreme hesitation and reluctance, to say to my readers in this place, because the time has come when something ought to be said, and there seems to be no other place available for saying it. For many years letters—often in a high degree interesting and pleasant to receive—have been coming to me from persons with whom I am not acquainted, and I have always been best to answer them. It is long time since such letters came to form the larger part of a voluminous mass of correspondence. The physical fact has assumed dimensions with which it is no longer possible to cope. If I were to answer all the letters which arrive every day, I should never be able to do another day's work. It is becoming impossible even to read them all, and there is scarcely time for giving the attention to one in ten. Kind friends and readers will thus understand that if their queries seem to be neglected, it is by no means from any want of good will, but simply from the lamentable fact that the day contains only four and twenty hours."

It would be a great pity to have so charming and instructive a writer as Professor Fiske kept from literary work by having to answer an avalanche of letters, many of which no doubt spring from mere selfishness.

SIXTEEN years ago the will of New York's great merchant, Alexander Stewart, was admitted to probate. At that time Mr. Stewart believed that he had no relatives he could trace, being the only son of an only son, and he left no children. Yet during all these years ex-Judge Hilton had tried to fight after suit to retain possession. Very recently a person named Alexander Stewart has brought an ejectment suit against Hilton and will endeavor to prove that he is a relative and heir-at-law of the man who died more than sixteen years ago with the belief that he had not a relative in the world. Thus it seems that money not only finds friends, but relatives.

The history of words reveals some curious processes of evolution. The word valet, for instance, which, though generally pronounced as a French word, is also English, and pronounced to rhyme with mallet or pallet, has a curious history. It is derived from an old Cornish word, gwas, a youth, a servant. From gwas came the Low Latin uasus, and then uasallus, a servant; thence, the diminutive uasallus, a young vassal, presently contracted into valet; thence, valet; and thence, finally, valet. It is a long reach from gwas to valet, but the word has traveled all that way.

The model has been completed of a large bronze statue to the late President Arthur, which is to be erected in New York City. "The model," says the New York Tribune, "is nine feet, three inches high. The former President is represented in the act of speaking at a Cabinet meeting. He has a document folded in his left hand, which is hanging by his side. He has just taken off

his glasses, and is making a gesture with them in his right hand. The likeness is said to be excellent, and the pose easy and dignified." The money for the statue was raised by popular subscription.

## BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

Where it Went.  
Mrs. Figg—Where is that custard I put away this noon?  
Tommy—I guess it vanished into the empty heir.

Small Consideration.  
"Has your father—er—considered our—my proposal?"  
"He has. He considered it a piece of impudence."

No Easter Suits To Buy.  
Tommy—Paw, teacher, wants us to tell where is "land of steady state."  
Mr. Figg—The penitentiary, I suppose. They wear the same style there the year round.

Did His Best.  
"Did you get the particulars of that fellow snubbing down on X street?" asked the city editor.  
"He didn't quite snub," answered the reporter. "He morphined with that intent, but didn't make it."

Much Consolation in That.  
"By the time you've reached my age," said the gray-haired sage, "you will find that I was right, and that you, in your youthful smartness, did not know so much as you thought."  
"Well, there is one consoling thought," answered the flippant youth. "You will not be around then to say 'I told you so.'"

A Brilliant Scheme.  
Mr. Wickwire—it does seem queer to me that the government cannot devise some plan to prevent these annual overflows of the Mississippi.  
Mrs. Wickwire—it does look as though they ought to be able to. I wonder why it would not be a good plan to bore holes in the bottom of the river and let the water run out. They could then run up again in the dry season, you know, and—

But Mr. Wickwire had fled.

## ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.

The Queen of England never goes to bed before midnight.

Mrs. ELIZABETH STEVENS, who recently died in Glasgow, left \$2,500,000 to charitable institutions in that city.

THE Queen Regent of Spain refuses to touch a penny of the \$100,000 a year jointure to which, as the widow of the late king, she is entitled.

THE nearest living relative of Shakespeare is probably Thomas Hart, a resident of Australia, who is eighth in descent from Shakespeare's sister, Joan.

When an audience in Berlin did not like a speech of the eccentric Von Bulow and signified its displeasure by hissing, the musician pulled out a handkerchief and dusted his boots.

THERE are so few buffalo left in America as to make it interesting to learn that Queen Victoria has sent one from her farm at Frogmore, to the grounds of the Zoological Society in London.

THE petition for woman's suffrage, lately introduced in the Iowa Senate, was sixty-two feet long and contained the names of 1,800 legal voters and 655 women who desired to be legal voters.

A visitor at Begeoffel, Russia, saw Count Tolstoy's daughter open, in a single day, letters containing checks for their famine fund amounting to 3,000 roubles. Most of the letters were from America and the land. There was one check from London for £1,000.

THE late Roscoe Conkling refused to attend his daughter's wedding because she chose to marry a railroad train hand. To-day the young man is at the head of one of the biggest railroad systems in the country.

Mrs. JOHN SHERWOOD, the popular writer on etiquette, delightful parlor reader and society leader, is said to be past seventy, and although suffering much from rheumatism, forced by reverse of fortune to support herself and invalid husband, she is always cheerful, gracious and entertaining.